

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A camera comprising:
a shutter button;
a lens;
an image sensor for receiving images viewed by the lens; and
processing circuitry that comprises a control algorithm that implements an automated zoom control function with a zoom burst recording mode that automatically records a plurality of ~~closely-related~~ images having different zoom levels upon selecting at least one automatic zoom mode and then depressing of the shutter button, and ~~from which~~ wherein the user selectively chooses one or more of the images with the different zoom levels for storage;

wherein the automatic zoom modes include near priority mode for automatically recording the images with higher zoom levels, far priority mode for automatically recording the images with low zoom levels, custom wide angle priority for automatically recording the images at different wide angle zoom settings and custom zoom priority mode that has preprogrammed automated zoom capture settings.

2. (original) The camera recited in Claim 1 wherein the zoom levels are predetermined.

3. (original) The camera recited in Claim 1 wherein the zoom levels are postdetermined.

4. (original) The camera recited in Claim 1 which comprises mechanical zoom control that moves certain optical elements of the lens to different physical positions.

5. (original) The camera recited in Claim 1 which comprises digital zoom control wherein pixels of a recorded image are removed from the recorded image and the resultant image is scaled to its original size to create the illusion of zoom capture.

6. (original) The camera recited in Claim 1 wherein the control algorithm implements automated wide angle capture wherein different wide angle settings are prestored, and upon depressing of the shutter button, a plurality of images are automatically recorded at different wide angle and zoom settings.

7. (currently amended) A camera comprising:
shutter button;
a lens;
an image sensor for receiving images viewed by the lens; and
processing circuitry ~~(that~~ that comprises a control algorithm that implements an automated wide angle capture function with a zoom burst recording mode that automatically records a plurality of ~~closely-related~~ wide angle images having different wide angle views upon selecting the automatic wide angle capture function and then depressing of the shutter button, and from which a user selectively chooses images for storage;
wherein the processing circuitry further includes near priority mode for automatically recording the images with higher zoom levels, far priority mode for automatically recording the images with low zoom levels and custom zoom priority mode that has preprogrammed automated zoom capture settings.

8. (currently amended) A method comprising the steps of:
configuring a camera to have a shutter button, a lens, an image sensor for receiving images viewed by the lens, and processing circuitry that comprises a control algorithm, with a zoom burst recording mode, wherein the zoom burst recording mode includes near priority zoom mode for automatically recording the images with higher zoom levels, far priority zoom mode for automatically recording the images with low zoom levels, custom wide angle zoom priority for automatically recording the images at different wide angle zoom settings and custom zoom priority mode that has preprogrammed automated zoom capture settings;

automatically recording a plurality of images upon selecting an automatic zoom mode and then depressing of the shutter button to capture a series of ~~very closely related~~ images having different zoom levels; and

selecting an image from the series of automatically recorded images for storage.

9. (original) The method recited in Claim 8 wherein the zoom levels are predetermined.

10. (original) The method recited in Claim 8 wherein the zoom levels are postdetermined.

11. (original) The method recited in Claim 8 wherein the step of automatically recording the images comprises moving certain optical elements of the lens to different physical positions.

12. (original) The method recited in Claim 8 wherein the step of automatically recording the images comprises removing pixels of a recorded image from the recorded image and scaling the resultant image to its original size to create the illusion of zoom capture.

13. (original) The method recited in Claim 8 wherein the step of automatically recording the images comprises automatically recording a plurality of images to capture a series of very closely related images having different zoom levels.

14. (currently amended) A camera comprising:
imaging means for selectively coupling images from an image scene;
image sensing means for sensing the images coupled by the imaging means; and
processing means that implements an automated zoom control function with a zoom burst recording mode, for automatically recording a plurality of ~~closely related~~ images having different zoom levels sensed by the image sensing means after a user selects at least one automatic zoom mode, and from which a user selectively chooses one or more images for storage;

wherein the automatic zoom modes include near priority mode for automatically recording the images with higher zoom levels, far priority mode for automatically recording the images with low zoom levels, custom wide angle priority for automatically recording the images at different wide angle zoom settings and custom zoom priority mode that has preprogrammed automated zoom capture settings.

15. (original) The camera recited in Claim 14 wherein the imaging means comprises a shutter button and a lens.

16. (original) The camera recited in Claim 14 wherein the zoom levels are predetermined.

17. (original) The camera (recited in Claim 14 wherein the zoom levels are postdetermined.

18. (original) The camera recited in Claim 15 which comprises mechanical zoom control that moves certain of the imaging means to different physical positions.

19. (original) The camera recited in Claim 14 which comprises digital zoom control wherein pixels of a recorded image are removed from the recorded image and the resultant image is scaled to its original size to create the illusion of zoom capture.

20. (original) The camera recited in Claim 14 wherein the processing means comprises a control algorithm that implements automated wide angle capture wherein different wide angle settings are prestored, and a plurality of images are automatically recorded at different wide angle and zoom settings.